



Seventh Sunday after Epiphany

Preparation for **Worship**

God of life, there are days when the burdens we carry are heavy on our shoulders and weigh us down, when the road seems dreary and endless, the skies gray and threatening, when our lives have no music in them, and our hearts are lonely, and our souls have lost their courage. Flood the path with light, turn our eyes to where the skies are full of promise; tune our hearts to brave music; give us the sense of comradeship with heroes and saints of every age; and so quicken our spirits that we may be able to encourage the souls of all who journey with us on the road of life, to your honor and glory. Amen.

Augustine of Hippo

Gathering and Preparing for **God's Word**

Welcome and Announcements

Leader: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you.
People: **And also with you.**

Prelude "All Creatures of Our God and King" arr. Evanovich

Introit 11:15a "There Is a Balm in Gilead" Costen

* Call to Worship Isaiah 40:28-31

Leader: Have you not known? Have you not heard?
The Lord is the everlasting God, the Creator of the ends of the earth.

People: **God does not faint or grow weary;
God's understanding is unsearchable.**

Leader: Even youth will faint and be weary,
and the young will fall exhausted;
but those who wait for the Lord shall renew their strength.

People: **They shall mount up with wings like eagles,
they shall run and not be weary, they shall walk and not faint.**

All: **Let us worship God!**

* Hymn No. 35 "Praise Ye the Lord, the Almighty" LOBE DEN HERREN

* Prayer of Confession
**Good and gracious God,
forgive us for placing our faith in that which is fleeting and false.
We have believed in our own strength,
when we were simply hiding our weakness.
We have trusted material possessions and power,
when we were simply hiding our insecurities.
We have hoped for greater comfort and control,
when you asked us to carry another's cross.
In your loving-kindness, forgive our sin,
and reclaim us as your beloved children.
Help us to see your image in one another,
so that we would do justice, love kindness,
and walk humbly with you.
In Christ's name we pray. Amen.**

* Assurance of Pardon
Leader: Friends, believe the good news of the gospel.
People: **In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven.**

* Gloria Patri (Hymnal, No. 581)
**Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost;
as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be,
world without end. Amen, Amen.**

The Sacrament of Baptism 9a Addison James Riner

Congregational Response "Baptized in Water" BUNESSAN

Bap - tized in wa - ter, sealed by the Spir - it, marked with the
sign of Christ our King; — born of the Spir - it, we are God's
chil - dren; joy - ful - ly now God's prais - es we sing.

Children in K5 - first grade are invited to leave for Children's Church.

Hearing **God's Word**

Prayer for Illumination

Old Testament Lesson, 1 Kings 17:17-24 p. 282

Gospel Lesson, Luke 7:11-17 p. 839

Leader: The Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

Sermon "Bumping into a Funeral"

Responding to **God's Word**

* Affirmation of Faith *The Apostles' Creed*

**I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth,
and in Jesus Christ his only Son, our Lord;
who was conceived by the Holy Ghost,
born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, dead, and buried; he descended into hell;
the third day he rose again from the dead;
he ascended into heaven,
and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty;
from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead.
I believe in the Holy Ghost;
the holy catholic Church; the communion of saints;
the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body;
and the life everlasting. Amen.**

Choral Call to Prayer 11:15a Jackson
"Breathe on Me, Breath of God"

Prayers of Thanksgiving and Intercession

The Lord's Prayer
**Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name,
thy kingdom come, thy will be done,
on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our debts
as we forgive our debtors; and lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom, and the power,
and the glory, forever. Amen.**

Offering
Offertory "And Can It Be" Forrest

* Doxology (Hymnal, No. 606)
**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; Praise God,
all creatures here below; Praise God above, ye heavenly
host; Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

* Prayer of Dedication

Recognition of New Members 11:15a

* Hymn No. 300 "We Are One in the Spirit" SCHOLTES
* Charge and Benediction
* Choral Response 11:15a "Amen" Keen
* Postlude "Love Divine, All Loves Excelling" arr. Hustad

**All who are able may stand*

Leading Worship **this Morning**

Ben Dorr, *preaching*

Lauren Slingerland, *liturgist*

Lesley Usher (9a), Jara Jones (11:15a), *sponsors*

Nancy Smith, *organist/pianist*

Diana Dailey (9a), *soloist*

Sanctuary Choir (11:15a)

Lauren Doar (9a), Genevieve Weaver (11:15a), *lay readers*

Ted Gentry (9a), Emily Busby (11:15a), *head ushers*

Meg McKnight, Kate Patterson, Hastings Blumer,

Jay Culclasure, Ross Glidewell, (9a), *greeters*

Tony Atkins, Russ Williams, Toni Paylor,

Rob Morgan, Keith Stevenson, (11:15a), *greeters*

Ellen Reynolds (9a), Harrison Dillard, Thomas Dillard (11:15a), *acolytes*

WORSHIP NOTES

NURSERY

Childcare is available for infants through four-year kindergarten. Our nurturing staff of experienced caregivers and parent volunteers offers a welcoming environment to all children.

CONNECT WITH WESTMINSTER

Looking for ways to be involved? Please complete a Connection Card from the Ritual of Friendship pad and place it in the offering plate to express interest or sign up for an opportunity.

WELCOME TO WPC!

Please fill out a name tag and find more information about WPC at the Welcome Table in the Atrium. First time visitors are also invited to take home a WPC mug.

ASH WEDNESDAY, MARCH 2

Mark the beginning of the Lenten season with penitence, prayer, and the imposition of ashes. From 8-9a and 12-1p, receive ashes, a blessing, and a prayer card in the columbarium (rain location: under the W. Augusta Place circular drive awning). Worship service with ashes at 7pm in the Sanctuary.

Join Us in Welcoming

BAPTISM

This morning at the 9a worship service, we welcome into our fellowship Addison James Riner, daughter of Michael & Mary-Catherine Riner.

With Thanksgiving We Celebrate

BIRTH

The birth of a son, *Duke Wyckoff Muller*, to Wiley & Caroline Muller on Tuesday, February 8, 2022, in South Portland, Maine.

MEMBERSHIP@WPC

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS!

This Sunday in the 11:15a worship service, we welcome new members into the Westminster Church family. All are invited to greet them in the Atrium following worship.

JOIN WPC'S HOSPITALITY TEAM

Are you a "do-er" looking to connect with others while contributing to WPC's culture of welcome? Consider serving on the Hospitality Team! Hospitality Team participants will receive regular invitations to help with events like the basketball banquet, church suppers, and after-worship donuts. Contact Julia Watkins to get involved.

WESTMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

OPEN MINDS • Education@WPC

Here at Westminster we proclaim a thoughtful Christianity that seeks challenge and comfort, and always looks for the ways old stories can renew new faith, from our youngest disciples to our most seasoned.

Elementary, Middle, and High School Class Locations

4K thru Elementary: Bottom level (1st floor):

4K and 5K	Room 104
1st and 2nd Grade	Room 107
3rd, 4th, and 5th Grade	Room 125

The Middle and High School rooms are upstairs in the 300 hallway:

Grades 6, 7, and 8	Youth Suite “main”
Grades 9-12	Youth Suite “games”

Adult Classes

Adult faith formation is a central part of the life of Westminster. Join us to explore the ways Scripture disrupts, builds up, and interacts with modern discipleship, and to explore familiar stories more deeply. This quarter will run for six weeks, ending March 16. Adult classes meet at 10a on the 200 Hall. New this semester:

Abraham: A Life of Faith

Room 209 and streaming live at wpc-online.org

Building on the earliest stories of Genesis, we will now turn our focus to Father Abraham – an iconic ancestor of three faiths, Judaism, Christianity, and Islam. Themes of call and covenant, critical to Protestant faith and Jewish identity, will be explored, alongside a close reading of more difficult stories: Hagar and Ishmael, Sodom and Gomorah, the binding of Isaac, and Abraham’s children.

Led by Associate Pastor Leigh Stuckey

Welcome the Stranger: Justice, Compassion, and Truth in the Immigration Debate

Room 212

Examine the complex root causes and potential solutions for immigration through a biblical, historical, and political lens. This discussion-based class is offered in partnership with World Relief, a global Christian humanitarian organization whose mission is to empower the local church to serve the most vulnerable, specifically refugees and other immigrants. The class will culminate with opportunities to volunteer in service of refugees in and around Greenville.

Led by Walter Hinton and Nikki Grumbine and Associate Pastor Julia Watkins

Nikki Grumbine, a retired textile marketing executive, is a board member (and former board president) of Friends of the Reedy River (FoRR). In 2019 she received the Clean Water Champion Award in recognition of her work with FoRR. Nikki is a past and newly-elected elder here at Westminster.

Walter Hinton is a well-respected attorney in Greenville with expertise in aviation and maritime law. He is active in the Heritage Lecture Committee and the Theology Reading Group. Walter is a past elder at Westminster.

OPEN HEARTS • Fellowship@WPC

HIKING GROUP

The Hiking Group's next hike is in Payne's Creek State Park near Hartwell, GA. Buffie Taylor is the hike leader. If you are interested in this hike, contact Buffie at ehtaylor87@gmail.com.

LIGHTLY SEASONED

Lightly Seasoned, a Westminster fellowship group for those in their fifties (very loosely defined) – will meet on Friday, March 4, at 7p at the home of Amy Grace, (8 Bachman Ct). Watch your e-mail for more information or check the church's web site (“Connect” then “Events Registration” tabs) or contact Susan Grier (susan@grierfamily.org) for details.

WESTMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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THE HARBINGER

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CALENDAR OF EVENTS

February 20 – 27, 2022

Sunday, February 20

Seventh Sunday after Epiphany

9:00a	Worship Service
	New Member Class
10:00	Sunday School
10:55	Session Meeting
11:15	Worship Service
12:30p	Stated Session Meeting

Monday, February 21

Weekday School Closed

Tuesday, February 22

12:00p	AI-Anon Group Meeting
5:30	K5-5th Grade Teams Basketball Banquet

Wednesday, February 23

9:30a	Weekday Chapel
9:45	Weekday Chapel
10:00	Weekday Chapel
11:00	Luncheon Group Meeting
2:15p	WPC Kids Afterschool
2:45	It's Elementary
4:30	Junior & Senior Choristers
7:00	Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal

Friday, February 25

Women of Westminster Retreat

Saturday, February 26

Women of Westminster Retreat

Sunday, February 27

Transfiguration Sunday

Women of Westminster Retreat

9:00a	Worship Service
10:00	Sunday School Confirmation Class
10:55	Session Meeting
11:15	Worship Service
5:00p	Middler Youth Group
5:15	Senior High Choir Rehearsal
6:00	Youth Dinner
6:30	Middler Choir Rehearsal Senior High Youth Group

K5 - 5TH GRADE TEAMS

BASKETBALL BANQUET

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 22

Celebrate the 2021-2022 season of WPC Basketball for K5-5th grade teams. Teams will be recognized and trophies awarded. The nursery will be available for children under three. Dinner includes pizza (a gluten friendly option is available if indicated upon sign up), salad, and dessert for \$5/person (coaches eat free). Sign up today at www.wpc-online.org. Register for dinner by Sunday, February 20. Serving lines will open from 5:30-6p. The banquet will conclude by 6:45p.

the HARBINGER

open minds open hearts

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From the Pews, Parks Workman

Jesus’ ministry is filled with miracles, some perhaps more famous than others. The miracle in Luke 7:11-17 probably falls on the “less famous” of the spectrum—being just a few short versus sandwiched between various vignettes and only appearing in one of the four the gospels. Yet, what miracle could be more memorable—the raising of the dead—and perhaps a foreshadowing of Jesus’ own victory over death.

Let’s picture the scene in our minds. Jesus and his large crowd of followers meet a funeral procession with a grieving widow. The widow is utterly hopeless. She has not only suffered the heartbreak of losing her husband and child, but her livelihood as well. Being that she was a widow, her only son would have been the best person for her continued care, but now he was lost. Yet Jesus saw her. Jesus’ heart went out to her. Jesus told her not to cry. Jesus raised her son from the dead and gave him back to her.

The message of hope for the hopeless in Jesus is clear. Jesus will see our grief in even our darkest times. In addition, a call for us as followers of Jesus to help the helpless also rings loud—a message we as a church community should use to inspire a call to action.

However, for me, a profound effect of this miracle account is the reminder of the many miracles that Jesus has already performed in my life. Perhaps not as pronounced as raising a child from the dead, but even a cursory reflection on life will reveal many subtle miracles and gifts. A friend of mine had me go through the exercise one time of writing down all miracles and gifts that I have received—starting at my childhood and continue through each phase. I encourage you to do the same. I think you will find it difficult to capture everything. Despite whatever hardships, troubles, and grief you have faced and are currently facing, you will find an abundance of gifts. Just as Jesus gave the widow her son, Jesus has given us these gifts—and Jesus did it out of the compassion of his heart.

Notice that Luke follows this account with a story about a doubting John the Baptist—a person described by Jesus as the greatest man ever to be born of a woman. Yet even John had doubts in his darkest times (he was in prison). John asks the question of Jesus: “Are you the one who is to come . . .?” Jesus’ response was not admonishment or disappointment. Jesus replied, “Go back and report to John what you have seen and heard: The blind receive sight, the lame walk, those who have leprosy are cleansed, the deaf hear, the dead are raised, and the good news is proclaimed to the poor.”

Similarly, let’s reflect on the many miracles of our lives and know that Jesus is the one. Let’s be filled with awe and praise God. “God has come to help his people.” Let’s spread the good news.



**WESTMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
THE SECOND DECADE 1957-1967**

By August 1967, 20 years had passed since the fledgling Westminster held its first worship service in a circus tent. During the church's second decade, the church was led by Dr. John A. Haley. So many incredible things happened during this period under his leadership.

The church, its members, and its pastor faced social change during the 1960's with courage, and were on the leading edge of actions such as the desegregation of public schools and the Civil Rights Movement. The Session passed a resolution to welcome and seat anyone of any race who came to worship at Westminster. Well ahead of what could have been violent community unrest, as was happening in so many other cities, Elder Arthur Magill and Dr. Haley led a group from Greenville to visit Atlanta's Mayor, Ivan Allen, about how to proceed in race relations. Being a "purple" church even in the 1960's, people of different political points of view forged ahead in what I believe was an early example of "What Would Jesus Do?".

WPC's first Assistant Pastor, Tom Biggs, was ordained in July 1961. I remember my parents saying that Tom was surely a humble man, because when he kneeled during his ordination, a large hole in the sole of one shoe was quite evident.

During this period, the church's first mortgage was paid off and the building fund was showing a healthy cash balance. With 650 members on the roll, WPC again turned its eyes toward building. On November 19, 1961, the church formally moved ahead with groundbreaking for new administrative offices, an additional education building, and a new sanctuary.

I was 12 years old and remember standing in front of the crowd of my fellow members as the Northwest Cornerstone (beside the "Ten Commandments" doors) was dedicated. This cornerstone contains several important items of historical significance to Westminster.

Dedication of the magnificent new sanctuary took place on March 24, 1963. The original steeple featured a fish - which we learned was a symbol by which early Christians communicated with one another. Our 151 foot free standing bell tower raised the cross of Christ for all to see. The contemporary stained glass windows symbolize Christ's life on one side of the sanctuary. The windows on the other side depict the growth of His church - from the Great Commission, His Ascension, the Day of Pentecost, to the Protestant Reformation. The new Holtkamp pipe organ contained 1848 pipes and was one of the largest anywhere.

Local missions continued to be a priority, with continuing support of The Parker Heights Chapel in Greenville's less affluent Parker District. In 1964 a study of a weekday school began, which became a reality in 1966, and continues to be one of the finest preschool programs in the Upstate.

In November 1966 John Haley left WPC to accept a call in Clearwater, FL. In the fall of 1967 the Pastor Nominating Committee brought the congregation the name of Alfred B. Montgomery to be called as the next pastor.

Fred Carpenter

My thanks to Sue Inman for her incredible book, *Growing in Faith - A History of Westminster Presbyterian Church* (2007). Her book was a great source of information for this, the second in a series of monthly articles on Westminister's history.

WPC@75

In 2022 we are celebrating 75 years of transformative ministry in Greenville. You'll hear more about our plans for celebrating, and be able to learn about WPC thru the decades with monthly Minutes for History Harbinger inserts like this one from Fred Carpenter.



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